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## FORMOSA.

*Plague in Taipeh.*YOKOHAMA, JAPAN, *December 27, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to report that the Japanese Government yesterday received a telegram from Taipeh, Formosa, of which the following is a translation:

TAIPEH, *December 25.*

Plague has broken out here. About 10 people have been attacked. Two have already succumbed.

Beyond the above, the situation in Japan remains practically unchanged since the date of my last report. With the increasing cold, the dysentery is abating, though with unusual slowness.

I am, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,

STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,  
*Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.*

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,  
*U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.*

## MADAGASCAR.

*Plague in Tamatave.*

CONSULATE OF THE UNITED STATES,  
*Tamatave, December 3, 1898.*

SIR: I have the honor to confirm my cablegram to the honorable, the Secretary of State, under date of November 28, as follows: SECRETARY OF STATE—*Washington*—Bubonic pest—GIBBS—and to say, that this community became greatly excited on the 27th ultimo, on discovery that the bubonic pest had broken out in our midst.

Its first appearance was discovered among the Antaimoros, a tribe of native laborers about the stores and warehouses in the city. There have been up to date about 35 cases, 30 of which have resulted fatally. Quarantine has been established and communication with the outside world restricted.

The mortality has been confined to the natives until to-day, when one European became a victim to this dreaded disease. The sanitary condition of the city has been such that the plague found a veritable breeding spot, the accumulation of vegetable and noxious debris would arrest the senses on the highways and byways.

The authorities are making energetic efforts to cleanse the city and prevent its spreading to other parts of the island. The medical board have cabled Dr. Yersin at Hongkong for his vaccine against the pest. Meanwhile the effect on business and household expenses is very great, paralyzing the one and expanding the other to almost famine prices; all edibles obtainable have advanced 300 or 400 per cent, owing to quarantining the native truck gardeners against coming to the market place, making living an expensive item, and thereby adding to our ills.

I sincerely trust ere this reaches you that the Department may have been apprised of the elimination of this dreaded scourge.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

W. W. GIBBS,  
*United States Consul.*

Hon. ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF STATE.